

ESTABLISHED 1857.

第一萬零四百七十八號

二十二年七月十七日

HONGKONG WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26th, 1891.

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號六十二三八英零存

PRICE \$25 PER

NEW ADVERTISEMENT

## INFORMATION

## INSTRUCTIONS

## INTIMATIONS

## INTIMATIONS

SH PP NG

**ARRIVALS.**  
August 25, YÜENANG, British steamer,  
Slesar, Whampoa 25th August, Ge.  
—JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.  
August 25, JOHANN, German str., 427, H. J.  
Touane, 22nd August, General.—W  
& Co  
August 25, MELBOURNE, French steamer,  
Boelagaa, Shanghai 22nd August.

August 25, FU-SHUN, Chinese str., 150  
Coad, Shanghai 21st August, Gene  
C. M. S. N. Co.  
August 25, LEE-YUEN, Chinese steamer,  
Tientsin.  
August 25, DORA FORSTER, British str.

neral.—MITSUBI HUSSAN KAISHA.  
August 25, THALES, British str., 329, H  
Taiwanfo 20th August, Amoy 21st  
Swatow 24th, General.—DOUGLAS LAR  
& Co.  
August 25, WHAMPOA, British str., 1,109,  
Clegg, Swatow 24th August, Gene  
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE.  
August 25, HAIPHONG, French steamer,  
Bourquet, Haiphong 22nd August, and  
how 24th, General.—MESSAGERIES M  
TIMES.  
August 25, SWIRE, French steamer, S

August 25. PAKHAN, British steamer, 83  
Young, Swatow 24th August, General

**CLEARANCES.**  
AT THE HARBOUR MASTER'S OFFICE  
25TH AUGUST.

*Chetydra, British str.*, for Singapore.  
*Sometch Phra Nung, British str.*, for Saigoo.  
*Dora Foster, British str.*, for Shanghai.  
*Zafro, British str.*, for Amoy.  
*Lygemoon, German str.*, for Shanghai.  
*Actis, Danish str.*, for Heihow.  
*Namoa, British str.*, for Swatow.  
*Frejn, Danish str.*, for Heihow.

August 23, DORIS, German str., for Hone  
Bay-  
August 25, CHING-WO, Brit. str., for Yokoh  
August 25, (HELYDRA, Brit. str., for Sing.  
August 25, LYEEMOON, Ger. str., for Shan

Per Melbourne, str., from Shanghai.—  
Hongkong.—Messrs. T. Gilchrist, Girault,  
C. E. Roach, and Miss A. Xavier. From Y  
hama.—Mr. Anson. From Kobe.—Messrs.  
mas, Sugemura Osakoshi, and Kamena Z

thorard, J. Meier, C. Brisl, C. Borgues, C. B. and Riou, from Shanghai. For Singapore Mr. E. Thorburn, from Shanghai. From Yokohama.—Messrs. Eschbroy Abdoolhusein, R. A. Bagiz. From Kobe.—Mr. Cosmas. Marseilles.—Messrs. J. Maltby, M. Mignot.

Per *Thales*, str., from Taiwanfoo, &c.—Chinese.  
Per *Whampoa*, str., from Swatow.—250 neso.

Per Sydney, str., for Hongkong from  
seiller.—Messrs. Lucien Garton and Ma  
From Colombo.—Messrs. W. M. Pickett and  
J. Pinchand From Singapore.—Messrs.  
Wah Hong Tan Chan Wing Tan Ah Shue

Frere Maltite, and 181 Chinese. For Shan from Marseilles.—Rev. Francisco Wam. Kobe from Marseilles.—Mr. S. Arimari. Yokohama.—Messrs. Tomonari, Katsoko taru, Heck, Controt, Schwendenmann. G. Bauman, Oshikawa. Garmin Fodorokkire.

Martin. From Saigon.—Mr. Nicolai, G  
and Chaperon.

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**VISITORS AT HOTELS.**

**HONGKONG HOTEL.**  
Mr. Wm. Che. Bibby. Mr. H. A. Pattinay.

Mr. Wm. A. Daland	Mr. Victor Robertson
Mr. W. V. Drommond	Mr. Salling
Mr. H. F. Forbes	Mr. G. F. von Sante
Mons. de Fornal	Mr. S. Stuart
Mr. H. B. Heemakerk	Mr. E. W. Walker
Dr. and Mrs. Henry	

VICTORIA HOTEL.

Mr. A. Alberg	Baroness Alberg
Mr. George Bond	Mr. J. MacLachlan
Mr. A. H. Bradley	D. & Mrs. S. D. Neill
Capt. T. W. Focken	and child
Mr. F. J. Fooker	Capt. Pignot
Capt. A. Getley	Mr. Thomas
Capt. Hildebrand	

MOORE & HARTY, HOTEL.

royd	Mr. Melcher
Miss Archbnt	Mr. Nicolle
Hon. S. Brown	Mr. Poate
Mr. Capel	Mr. Romusat
Mrs. C. eker & children	Mr. Robinson
Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Coxon	Mr. A. Ross
Mr. Dipple	Mr. and Mrs. B.

Mr. W. A. Goodrich	Mr. Taylor
Mr. Goodman	Mr. G. T. Veitch
Mr. R. M. Gray	Mr. Wilkowaki
Mr. C. J. Holliday	Mr. and Mrs. A. G.
Mr. & Mrs. J. D. Lapraik	Mr. A. G. Wood
<b>FRANK HOTEL</b>	
Mr. J. F. Boulton	Mr. Louis Mendel
Mr. J. W. Hearn	Mr. I. S. Moss

Mr. J. R. Coughtrie	Mr. G. J. Philippo
Capt. J. Dunn	Mr. and Mrs. A. no
Mr. Geo. Buckley	Mr. E. H. Sawyer
Mr. J. S. Kiesel	Mr. E. Shewan
Mr. G. Frantzmann	Mr. & Mrs. Fraser
Mr. C. L. Gorham	Mr. C. J. L. Stewart
Mr. Sixto Lopez	Mr. L. Sulder

MR. R. McPherson  
Mr. H. P. Mann

MR. J. H. Shook  
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VESSELS IN DOCK.

ARKEDEEN DOCKS.—  
KOWLOON DOCKS.—Hailong, Taich

36  
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NOW OPEN.  
 THE MOUNT AUSTIN HOTEL

**A TIAL HOTEL**, situated 1,800  
above the sea level, commanding on the one  
a magnificent view of the Harbour and  
Mainland in the distance, and on the other  
hills and mountains, with the sea beyond  
with islands as far as the eye can reach.

The Hotel is replete with every accommodation for Families and Gentlemen.  
The Manager, Mr. ROBERT INCHAY,  
is assisted by an efficient staff.

the Hotel with its modernized and equipped kitchen and dining system. The accommodation comprises a spacious Dining Hall, Private Dining Room, Drawing, Reading, Smoking, G. Hall, Billiard Room and Private Sitting Rooms, with Fifty Bedrooms each provided with separate bathroom and every convenience.

For terms apply to the SECRETARY  
COMPANY'S OFFICE, 38 and 40, Queen's  
Central, Hongkong.  
Hongkong, 1st June, 1891.

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANT  
ALE AND STOUT MERCHANT  
HONGKONG, 13, Queen's Road.  
SHANGHAI, 1, Foochow Road.

...the ...



## HONGKONG TRADING CO., LD.

## GENTLEMEN'S OUTFITTERS.

A STRAW HATS,  
L PITH HATS,  
S FELT HATS,  
I SINGLE TERRAI HATS,  
B DOUBLE TERRAI HATS.

SEASONABLE NOVELTIES to hand,  
Ex MAIL STEAMER.

HONGKONG TRADING CO., LIMITED.  
QUEEN'S ROAD AND DUNDRELL STREET.

12 GOLD MEDALS AND 12 SILVER MEDALS  
By Appointment.

KUHN & CO.  
HONGKONG YOKOHAMA  
(Established 1869).  
THE ORIENTAL FINE ART DEPOT.  
Known as the oldest and most reliable Estab-  
lishment in the East.  
Hongkong, 9th February, 1891. (189)

BROWN, JONES & CO.  
No. 45, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,  
HONGKONG.

ITALIAN AND AMERICAN MARBLE  
MONUMENTS AND MEMORIALS  
IN STOCK.

A SKILLED EUROPEAN STONE-MASON  
SUPERINTENDING ALL WORKS.  
PROMPT ATTENTION TO ORDERS FROM  
COASTAL PORTS.  
SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.  
Hongkong, 7th August, 1891. (1874)

A. S. WATSON & Co., LIMITED.  
HONGKONG.

VEGETABLE AND FLOWER SEEDS.  
Season 1891-92.

THE First Shipment of our supply of  
GARDEN SEEDS

for this Season has arrived and we are now pre-  
pared to book orders for prompt or forward  
direction. Complete Catalogues with concise  
instructions for sowing can be obtained on applica-  
tion or will be posted to any address. In these  
Catalogues the Seeds are Marginally Numbered  
in English and Chinese, and when ordering it is  
quite sufficient to only state the numbers of the  
kinds required.

Orders from one person, of from \$5 to \$10,  
allowed 25 % discount.

Orders from one person, over \$10 allowed an  
extra 5 % discount.

CLAY'S FERTILIZER.

A high class fertilizer for pot plants and for  
use in the garden generally. It supplies natural  
nourishment to the soil, and assists the process  
of assimilation, thereby aiding the plants to  
attain to their full size, vigour and beauty.

Sold in Tins containing 10 lbs each... \$1.50.  
At 25 lbs... \$4.00.  
At 50 lbs... \$7.00.

Directions for use are given on the label.

RAVENS' "NEW PARIS"

LAWN MOWERS.  
The best and cheapest machines in the market,  
for sale at manufacturers' prices.

A. S. WATSON & Co., LIMITED.  
THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,  
ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

Hongkong, 24th August, 1891. 139

BIRTHS.

At Altona, Germany, on the 22nd July, Mrs. J.  
LAWSON, of Hongkong, a daughter. (2007)  
At Altona, on the 15th August, the wife of THOMAS  
MORRIS, a son. (2008)  
At Shanghai, on the 21st August, the wife of  
ALBERT CHAMBERLAIN, a daughter. (2009)  
At Altona, on the 15th August, the wife of  
HUGHES, a daughter. (2010)  
At Shanghai, on the 15th August, the wife of  
DAVID CRANSTON, a son. (2011)

DEATHS.

On the 21st July, at Tientsin, Mrs. CHAMBERLAIN,  
widow of the late Sir J. CHAMBERLAIN, Chief Justice of  
Hongkong and daughter of Mr. CHAMBERLAIN, Esq.,  
of Manchester, in her 71st year. (2012)  
At Wai, on the 15th August, WILLIAM COLLINS,  
Upper Yangtze Pilot, aged 65 years. (2013)  
At Shanghai, on the 15th August, HENRY FULLER,  
aged 45 years. (2014)  
At Shanghai, on the 15th August, GEORGE LEWIS, a native of Carma-  
then, aged about 53. (2015)

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, AUGUST 26th, 1891.

AMID the chorus of groans that reverberate

continuously along the Coast of Asia, the  
wall of despairing exultations and the dirge  
of falling houses, the local Bank maintains  
its serenity. Whatever else may decay and  
disappear at all, values increase and solidify.  
It is as if the very rottenness of the Eastern  
trade were the nutriment of this, the  
greatest factor in it, and as if the life-blood  
of the commercial community were all  
drained into the one wide and ever deepening  
pool. We are not concerned for the moment  
to clear up the seeming contradiction  
that the prosperity of the great Bank should  
advance in the inverse ratio of that of  
the trade on which it lives. The paradox  
is indeed partly solved itself, for in the last  
half year we have seen that the fall of cer-  
tain business houses has necessitated a call  
on the Bank's reserves. So far from this  
being an unfavourable symptom of the

health of the institution, we hold it to be  
quite the contrary; for nothing could inspire  
more well-grounded confidence in the Bank  
than to see that it is intimately sympathetic  
with its surroundings, rising with the pros-  
perity of its clients and also feeling some-  
thing of their misfortunes. Our readers  
will no doubt remember another financial  
institution which went on year after year  
paying a monotonous dividend of ten per  
cent. while all its neighbours were being  
tossed about on the restless waves of com-  
mercial vicissitude; and it was a marvellous  
thing to observe one concern which was  
apparently unaffected by the fluctuations in  
Exchange, the depression of silver, or the  
severest reactions in general commerce.  
But, as the famous *maxime* in Moliere  
says, there is everything to be feared in  
such excess of health; and the Bank in ques-  
tion eventually drifted over the precipice  
with its ten per cent. and all. In dealing  
with such vast, almost unimaginable sums  
as the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank direc-  
tors have to handle, it would be the easiest  
thing in the world to hide away heavy losses  
indefinitely. The credit of the Bank in-  
creases its deposits continually, and the  
capital and reserves keep swelling up year  
by year, to such an extent that the biggest  
loss the Bank ever made in a year could  
be the directors so disposed, be simply  
covered up until it seemed the management to  
dissemble. The Bank, however, is conducted  
on sounder and healthier principles, and  
the eyes of cool-headed men on the open  
operation of a million and a quarter of dollars  
from the reserves is a better guarantee to  
the public than if the directors of the year  
had been passed over with an affection of  
superiority to the contingencies of commer-  
cial life.

The remark has been made many times  
that the institution of which we are all so  
proud is rather too big for the place. Hong-  
kong is one of the modern wonders of the  
world in more respects than one, but not  
even its immense shipping importance is  
more wonderful than this little rock  
with its colony of ants crowding round its  
base should be the parent of such a gigantic  
tree overreaching with its branches the  
whole of Eastern Asia. That the resources  
that all have been gathered together,  
that all the world should have been induced,  
and by the most potent of all considerations,  
to contribute to the pile, is a thing on which  
this Colony may most justly congratulate  
itself. It is the best answer to all the  
charges which are from time to time laid  
against it by inconsiderate tongues. Scarcely  
less surprising, however, is it that the  
resources of the commercial community  
should have proved equal to the manage-  
ment of so vast a corporation. It would be  
more affecting to ignore the difficulties the  
management has had from year to year in  
keeping up a full board of directors, without  
going up to the highways and hedges to  
bring them in. The constitution of the  
board, or the "Court," as it is properly  
called, has never been above criticism.  
There has been a lack of the independence  
without which the director can oppose no  
check to the proceedings of the manager.  
The weak position of some of the firms  
whence Bank directors had, *faute de mieux*,  
to be drawn was partly accountable for the  
unhappy relations between the board and  
the Bank managers; while in other cases the  
strength and importance of the firm led to  
no dissimilar results. Between those who  
were influential enough to control the Bank  
in their own interests—if they chose to do  
so, which we are far from assuming—and  
those who sat contentedly at the weekly  
meetings receiving the fees with meekness  
and anxious only for one thing, their annual  
re-election, the guarantee which the Court  
of Directors was intended to furnish to the  
shareholders and the public was apt to be  
completely annulled. The control which they  
were paid for exercising over the Manager  
could only be exercised in a perfunctory man-  
ner. It was just enough probably to relieve  
the Manager from the responsibility which he  
would otherwise have felt towards the share-  
holders, and the form gone through of ob-  
taining the approval of listless directors pre-  
occupied with their own concerns might  
have had a very dangerous effect on the  
Managers. That no such result has actual-  
ly been perceptible is a fact which redounds  
to the credit of the successive Managers who  
by their own sheer exertions and steady  
courage have brought the ship through so  
many stormy seas.

Immunity in the past ought not, however,  
entirely to close our eyes to the requirements  
of the future. It is evident that the direc-  
tor difficulty is an increasing one, and  
though the shareholders have for the time  
being secured the services of competent men,  
it were well to remember that the field of  
selection, according to present principles, is  
narrowing down to such a point that it in-  
fact amounts to no selection at all. The  
idea of removing the Head Office to London  
has, indeed, already been faintly mooted.  
It is not in that direction, however, that  
the remedy is to be found. To transfer the  
control from Hongkong would be to strike a  
blow at the prosperity of the Bank and in-  
volve the establishment of an opposition whose  
birth would be attended by circumstances  
almost as favourable as those under which  
the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank itself  
was ushered into the world. Two means  
of meeting the director difficulty suggest them-  
selves. One is to reduce the number of the  
Board. There are at present ten directors.  
It would be better to be satisfied  
with eight, or even six, than to appoint  
weak men who may have little or no  
power to control business and be able to  
add nothing to the wisdom or business  
sagacity of the Board. Such men do no good  
and only detract from the influence of the  
co-directors. A reduction in the number of  
directors would, moreover, effect a small  
economy, a point which ought not to be  
together lost sight of, though it is of minor  
importance. Another method of meeting  
the difficulty is by going further afield in  
the selection. The Hongkong system is gradu-  
ally breaking up, and it is worth while con-  
sidering whether under the changed conditions  
the tradition that the directors must all be  
heads of old established firms might not  
with advantage be broken through. A uni-  
versally applauded exception to the rule  
has recently been revived in the appoint-  
ment of Mr. Woods, the Agent of the

P. & O. Company, and other suitable names  
readily suggest themselves, such as Messrs.  
Messrs. K. E. & Co., the Secretary of the Union In-  
surance Co.; Mr. H. W. & Co., who occupies  
one of the most prominent positions in local  
financial circles, and who has built up the  
valuable business of A. B. Watson and Co.  
to its present proportions (the fact that this  
branch of the business is of a retail de-  
scription ought not, we think, to be con-  
sidered a disqualification); and Mr. GRAY-  
VILLER SHAPE, who, notwithstanding his  
associations with Banks that have failed, or  
perhaps even more on that account, would  
prove a valuable acquisition. Mr. BRILLON,  
who retired from the Board some years ago,  
might with advantage be invited to rejoin  
them on a vacancy occurs, and the newer firms  
that have risen from the ashes of old ones  
might also furnish suitable material. There  
are not fewer business men of capacity in the  
Colony now than there were twenty-five  
years ago, but the traditional method of  
selecting the directors of the Hongkong and  
Shanghai Bank has fallen out of joint with  
the times. Another suggestion we have  
heard is that a Chinaman should be appointed  
to the Board with the view of keeping the  
Bank in touch with the course of events in  
Chinese financial circles.

The delivery of the French mail was begun at  
4.30 p.m. yesterday.

The Agents (Messrs. Jardine, Matheson &  
Co.) inform us that the steamer *Goodfellow*, from  
London for this port, left Singapore on Monday.

As was anticipated, there was some little  
difficulty in connection with the settlement of  
the share market yesterday, the sequel of last  
month's difficulties, but on the whole it passed  
off satisfactorily.

We (Messrs.) learn from the North that some  
of the bridges required for the railway extension  
to Shanghai have been commenced already,  
and that it is intended to finish the whole line  
within about twelve months.

The Agents (Messrs. Jardine, Matheson &  
Co.) inform us that the *Orinoco* Shipper's Mutual  
Company, from London and Liverpool, left  
Singapore yesterday, and will be expected  
back about the 10th inst.

The British steamer *Margate* of 1,143  
tons, Captain Vickers, which left Kobe on the  
13th August for Tacoma, was dismissed off  
Awa, 80 miles from Kobe, where she is now  
anchored. Her captain arrived in Kobe on the  
15th August.

Mr. Cook, the Kobe agent of the Hongkong  
and Shanghai Bank, writes to the *Herald* as  
follows:—"Referring to your today's (Aug. 11th) ex-  
tract from the *Osaka Asahi Shinbun*, I am glad  
to state that your belief in the improbability  
of the steamer *Orinoco* being lost is fully  
entirely devoid of foundation as regards the al-  
leged loss of yen 400,000."

The following item is taken from a Yokohama  
paper of the 10th inst.:—"A telegram has been  
received by Admiral Katsura, from Commodore  
Kassner, of the *Orinoco*, dated at Yokohama, 10th  
inst., which announces that the new cruiser  
*Orinoco* will sail to-morrow for this station,  
and that the *Orinoco* and *Albatross*, for the same  
destination, will leave later."

The ceremony of laying the foundation stone of  
the tower at the new station of the *Hongkong*  
and *Shanghai* Bank, which was held on the 15th  
August, was attended by the Right Rev. Bishop  
Moyle. The height of the tower and spire,  
when completed, from base to cross will be  
150 feet, and the height of the spire alone will  
be 100 feet. The tower is to be built of stone,  
which has already been raised, and it is  
hoped that by next June the tower will be  
both completed and paid for.

We (Journalists) understand that Mr. CHAS.  
A. CORNELL, of the *North Eastern Daily Gazette*,  
Aldershot, and late Secretary of the  
Tientsin Press, has been appointed to the  
position of a special correspondent at Tientsin.  
The author of a serial tale entitled "The  
Story of the *Orinoco*," the first chapter of  
which appeared in the *Press* on the 15th inst.,  
is a story of a Chinese lower class life, being founded  
on a tragedy which took place in Hongkong during  
the late war. The story is a very interesting  
one, and it is hoped that the serial will be  
continued in the *Press*.

The *N. C. Daily News* writes:—"H. E. CHANG,  
Governor of Shanghai, who was engaged  
by the British Government to investigate the  
conduct of the *Orinoco* and *Albatross* Naval  
squadrons, has made a separate report to the  
British Government, and the report is a very  
interesting one. It is a report of a Chinese  
lower class life, being founded on a tragedy  
which took place in Hongkong during the  
late war. The story is a very interesting  
one, and it is hoped that the serial will be  
continued in the *Press*.

The *Blackburn Chamber of Commerce* has  
submitted a letter to Lord Salisbury on the  
subject of the systematic violation of Article 28  
of the Treaty of Tientsin, which stipulates  
that the goods of all further charges to a cer-  
tain station. Some recent acts of the Chinese  
mentioned in the British Consul's Report on  
the subject of the *Orinoco* and *Albatross* Naval  
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In the House of Lords on the 24th July,  
Lord Brassey called attention to the increased  
contribution demanded by the Home Govern-  
ment for the Straits Settlements for military ex-  
penditure, and pointed out that the colony, having  
paid £21,000 for the erection of fortifications,  
was now called upon to contribute £100,000 a  
year towards the maintenance of the garrison,  
and an additional £60,000 for the construction  
of barracks—burdens which it complained  
of as excessive in view of the fact that Singa-  
pore was an important base for the British  
strategic position, and that the colony was  
subject to Imperial defence. After some remarks  
from Lord Stanley of Alderley, Lord Knutsford  
explained that the colony had been asked to  
contribute £21,000 for the erection of fortifica-  
tions, and that the colony had been asked to  
contribute £100,000 a year towards the main-  
tenance of the garrison, and an additional  
£60,000 for the construction of barracks—burdens  
which it complained of as excessive in view of  
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In the afternoon the French Legation in Peking had a meeting with some of the Chinese officials who have taken an interest in the French mission for the protection of the Chinese in the Philippines. The Chinese officials maintained that the French Legation in Peking had a meeting with some of the Chinese officials who have taken an interest in the French mission for the protection of the Chinese in the Philippines. The Chinese officials maintained that the French Legation in Peking had a meeting with some of the Chinese officials who have taken an interest in the French mission for the protection of the Chinese in the Philippines.

undermine his proper influence. Percy (says) that to dignify the position of the Governor, the Government would "fix" a Governor, but the Government wouldn't "fix" it, however, though the Minister likes to fight another day.

Li Ching-fan, the Chinese Minister to London, has just been granted five days' leave. He has earned the approval of the Government and seems to have the art of making himself popular with everybody. His appeals were for the release of the Chinese prisoners captured by the quarrel Japanese. He is in fact a good linguist and a convincing man.

**NEW HAWAII.**

On the 10th of August (1901) Dr. Greig (a missionary doctor) has been elected to the position of Governor of Hawaii. The matter is in the hands of Mr. Appleton, H.B.M.'s Consul, who at once sailed on the "Tuscar," and pointed out the necessity for protecting the Hawaiian Islands from the Japanese. He has not any prejudices, but we hope, for the sake of the many missionaries of both sexes resident at Honolulu and other places, that the A.M.E. Church will not be the first to give in to the Society conspiracies. Missionaries, Catholics as well as Protestants, have tried for years to acquire property at Kilauea and fourth, the fact of being on the island, the property or lease lands have already led to serious disturbances and death. We hardly expect this time to be caused by any such attempt, and we are far from being sure that the missionaries have been the means of saving Father the R.M.S. Firebrand in port. This is the only

The chief officer (Mr. Brnbn) of the steamer *Hainan* was missing on 7th inst, and his body was picked up in the river on the 9th. Although he could not have been more than 24 hours in the water, his body was dreadfully decomposed. We have not heard what the cause of the man's death was, but it will be satisfactory to learn that death was sudden. The *Hainan* left Shanghai yesterday (Sunday)—*Daily Nippon* correspondent.

charge, each can being gaily decorated with red and white lanterns, and placards: "Today I'm *Asahi Sinitaka*!" It moreover presents a variety of variously decorated lanterns, and gave away 5,000 pieces of tobacco (Japanese toilet) to local agents. The total number of cars at present in Tokyo is 60, and the *Asahi* is estimated at about 15% of the total, or 40,000, so that the cost of this generosity on the part of the *Asahi* is estimated at about \$15,000. Who shall dare say that Japan is behindhand there? That she is not?

The Japanese man-of-war *Hatsuhara*, recently built at Yokosuka, is (says the *Japan Gazette*) to be dispatched to France to be fitted with great guns, the trial of which was reported in our issue of the 10th inst. The *Hatsuhara* is the first, the largest which has ever been made in the East, and is far too large to think of sending out to Japan to be fitted to the *Yashihara* be it so. It is the largest of the *Yashihara* class, and will be fitted with similar Armstrongs, the same coming out. The *Kakikii* is that there

In the earthquake on March 15, 1891, the church of San Sebastian was destroyed. A church, his now been erected on the same site and was opened on the 19th inst. It is of the painted to resemble stonework. It was furnished with Belgian pieces. The style is pure Gothic and from a picture published by the *Concepcion* the building appears to be an extremely handsome one. The cost of the fabric was \$143,880 and fitting and the interior have brought \$100,000.

consul at Hongkong representing that previous time was not taken here in regard to the quarantine of vessels. It was stated that the Health Officer at Manila had placed one vessel from Hongkong under observation for five days. The Health Officer approved this action, and recommended that the same course should be followed with regard to vessels arriving from Hongkong; also that similar regulations should be applied at Iloilo City and Sulu, in order to avoid the necessity of quarantining vessels from these ports at Manila.

**TONGKIN.**

The *Indopacifique* *Tonkinaise* of the 19th in this series.—Work is proceeding with astonishing rapidity between Hauga and Nagasaki and the road to Hanoi. A cargo of wood from Burnao is being discharged, and a second train is expected from Manila with the rails for permanent track. The locomotives are already

**BANGKOK.**

The Bangkok Times of the 12th inst. says— "Yesterday, since Friday last, a continued heavy rain has been falling in the neighborhood of Bangkok, and the frequent heavy showers which have fallen during the past four days account in meteorological parlance, to a typhoon." Moreover, it may be added, that is now pouring in the mountain from the up-country districts, where continuous heavy rains have caused the river to rise, the creeks and canals to fill with water and the death and epidemic of the country folk retire and emigrate to the coasting towns.

It has been established upwards of TWENTY FIVE YEARS, and enjoys the largest circulation of any Chinese paper in Southern China. It is carefully edited by an experienced Chinese Scholar, and contains FULL AND COMPLETE COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

Terms for Advertising can be obtained at the Office, Wyndham Street, Hongkong; or from the different Agents.



Li HUNG-CHANG in the objects of their

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The Chinese Government have clearly made

THE KOWLOON CUSTOMS AND THE  
HONGKONG AGENCY.

A correspondent in our issue of the 22nd inst. asks if the establishment of a Chinese Custom House in the Colony is not an "insult and reproach" to the British flag. Some persons no doubt look at the matter in that light, but it is not so difficult to see that the proposed arrangement of the Custom House has its location at Tai-chi-tek, and to facilitate the transacting of business an agency has been established in this Colony. Whatever may be thought of the likelihood as it formerly existed, the question of the right of the Chinese to the station of the revenue for the protection of their revenue was thoroughly threshed out and decided in their favour, and if we are to have the stations at all it is much better that they should be under honest administration of the Foreign Customs than be farmed out to Chinese agents. The Chinese Custom House since its removal for over four years now, during which time there has been practically no freedom, the attempt to levy duties on the trade of the Colony having been abandoned. The present state of things is a vast improvement on that which has preceded it, and the absence of illegal seizures would be of frequent occurrence, even within the waters of the Colony, and squeezing was practised with impunity.

The Custom House under the present arrangement has no authority in the Colony, and simply maintains an office here for the convenience of the Chinese, and the absence of insult or reproach to the British flag in the fact. Persons sending goods to the United States supply the American Consulate with copies of the invoices for Customs purposes, and it is difficult to draw any distinction of principle between the collection of information for Customs purposes and the performance of the same functions by an agency of the Customs.

"Gil" says that we silly Hongkong gosses have invited the Kowloon Cox to stay, our midst and that he has come to us. Well, is it not better to have the Cox under observation than to have him hidden in secret? The advantages of the present system are not few, and the disadvantages are hard to discover. The Custom House is legally established "on Chinese territory at a convenient spot on the Kowloon side for the sale of Chinese opium and sundries," and it is not practically convenient to have an office in Hongkong at all to say why that convenience should be sacrificed for the sake of mere sentiment. If the office of the Kowloon Customs were removed to Chinese territory to-morrow it would make no difference whatever to the honest traders, and it is no inconvenience for persons having business to transact with the Customs.

Mr. FORWOOD, Secretary to the Admiralty recently made the remarkable statement

Mr. Foxwood, Secretary to the Admiralty, recently made the remarkable statement that the naval departments of the Government now work from 10 to 30 per cent. more expensively than the Army and the Air Force compete with them. It would be interesting to cross-examine Mr. Foxwood on this statement and ascertain exactly what it means. A private trader has to make his charges sufficient to cover permanent expenses, in interest on capital, and cost of labour. The Admiralty, on the other hand, has no such accounts the first two of these, and, I am convinced it is easy to see how the showings might compare favourably with the charges of private shipbuilding yards. We should like to know, for instance, at what figures the Admiralty will put down the cost of raising the *Tweed* and what the *De la Conchagua* cost. The Admiralty will not say only the divers' wages are to be charged to the work and no charge made for the cost of superintendence, the use of barges, etc. I do not doubt the account will present a very economical appearance, but the actual amount of time and energy wasted, had any anyone knows, leads to considerable losses. I have seen the vessel raised, the vessel up and in dock within a week, whereas it took the Naval Authorities over a month to raise her. How much damage the vessel sustained by the delay we do not know, but it is very certain that three weeks' immersion longer than was necessary could not improve her. Those who have been together to raise her, and the authorities failed to do so, will be glad to see the vessel together to raise her, but a private firm accomplished the work without difficulty. With instances like these before us we find it difficult to credit Mr. Foxwood's statement as to the economy of the naval departments. It would not be fair, perhaps, to say any general conclusion on this subject. I am sure that the Admiralty is doing its best to raise the sinking ships. What Mr. Foxwood is specially in his mind, probably, was the work done in the yards, but even with respect to this we find it difficult to accept his statement. As the *Spectator* remarks in commenting on the subject, it is a great deal more of administrative management than of departmental work, less than the individual trader, whose whole attention is naturally concentrated on avoiding waste. The training is indeed too great to be readily creditable.

At the meeting of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank held on the 22nd inst. the

one should occupy the position more than two years in succession. Were the directors all of equal influence and standing the rotatory system would be unobjectionable, but since that is not the case the shareholders are, we think, entitled to expect that some discrimination should be shown in the selection of the Chairman.

20th August

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HIS HONOUR SIR JAM

IN THIS MATTER.

BEFORE HIS HONORABLE SON JAM S. RUSSELL,  
CHIEF JUSTICE, AND A SPECIAL JURY.

HO POEN HING vs. HO LAI SHI.

In this suit the plaintiff prays the Court (1) to be declared entitled as co-tenant with the defendant to an undivided half interest in the premises situate in the City of San Francisco, and bounded by the streets of Market, Main, and Island (No. 871, (2) to have an account of the rents and profits of the said Marine lot received by Ho Tsan Shui, deceased, and the said defendant, from the year 1871, to date; (3) payment of any amount that may be found to be due on the title of such accounts, with interest and costs of suit; (4) that the said plaintiff be appointed guardian of the said defendant.

Mr. Francis C. C. instructed by Mr. Wilkison, was for the plaintiff; Mr. Drummond, and Mr. Phillips, instructed by Messrs. Tuck and Phillips, were for the defendant.

The following were the jurors:—Messrs. C. Michaelson, G. C. Anderson, R. Lyall, W. C. Fordell, A. Hancock, R. W. Moss, and J. M. R. Mr. R. W. Moss was sworn for the plaintiff, said witness was, at the night before, from what they had seen previously in the past, the great Ho will ease. There was no question as to the fact that the said defendant had the ownership of certain property in the city.

In 1871 Ho Tsan Shui, of the London Missionary Society, died leaving property which he had acquired in the city of San Francisco, which was to be divided equally between him and his wife, who was a native of the city.

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The ordinary half-yearly meeting of the shareholders in this Corporation was held on the 2

last few months has adversely affected the exchange profits at many of our branches. Still I am happy to say that the general business of the Bank is not so much affected by the depression in exchange. Our losses, gentlemen, have been of an exceptionally severe nature. They were occasioned by the failure of the Eastern Bank in Bombay, the Bank of the Straits, and China. The loss in Bombay alone amounted to \$255,000, caused by the failure of a number of our branches in that city. The Eastern Bank who were repeated victims of the same failure. In China you have already heard of the misfortune of a number of our branches and in order to pay our usual dividend of 3s. per share on the old shares and the equivalent sum on the new, we are charged with a heavy burden. I would mention that our directors have done it best to face the loss of all our shares and have made a full and complete statement of the same and of doubtful debts. Considering the continued depression of trade in the colony and elsewhere, it will give you satisfaction to know that the Bank is not only able to meet its engagements but that not having had one share of reverses I trust that when we meet again it will be my good fortune to say that the current half year as you have had in former years. In planning over the accounts you will notice that the Bank has a surplus of \$1,000,000, and that the capital of the Bank \$10,000,000, and the reserve fund, after deducting the sum of \$1,200,000, has already referred to, now stands at \$8,800,000. The Bank has also a reserve fund of \$725,000 standing in our boxes at par, which it takes over at the rate of the day, would have made a profit of about 4 lakhs of rupees, and the Bank has a reserve fund of \$1,000,000 since the last report, showing the confidence the public have in our institution, and as money here and in the East comes in so fast, and as we are able to meet our engagements, your directors have after further most careful consideration decided to reduce the yearly interest to 4 per cent. Consequently the interest charged on all loans has been reduced to 4 per cent. I am under certain conditions to 6 per cent. I may add that the reduction on fixed deposits was introduced in India about three months ago, and I have received information from the directors that they have full information regarding our Maori troubles. The case was, I regret to say, that your father complicated in May last, and was a very serious case, and the directors decided another embryo of nine lakhs of dollars, of which \$252,000 the amount was laid in cash, was seized and seized. This action of the judge was altogether illegal, and of appeal against this high-handed proceeding has been taken, and the directors have decided to remove and further action was stopped. At the present moment, besides the amount laid in cash and locked up in the Bank, there is a sum of \$325,000 lodged with the Bank of the Straits, and the directors have decided to remove the same. In 1889, making altogether \$280,000 of dollars. Not only has the Bank been losing considerable interest by the lock up of such a large sum, but the Bank has been obliged to shut its doors for one month after the same embargo was placed on the Bank. As the case is *sub judice* you will find further details in the papers. I am sure that you will be satisfied but I hope you will consider it sufficient. I only add that, as we are advised, our position is so good that though the directors have no objection to the case, they have no objection to any apprehension as to the result. (Applause.) We feel certain that ultimately full justice will be done to the Bank by the Spanish Government, and that the directors will be able to return to the colony, your directors have authorized Mr. De Bevis in the position of chief manager; he has made their full and complete statement, and the directors have decided to remove the same. In 1889, making altogether \$280,000 of dollars. Not only has the Bank been losing considerable interest by the lock up of such a large sum, but the Bank has been obliged to shut its doors for one month after the same embargo was placed on the Bank. As the case is *sub judice* you will find further details in the papers. 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The ordinary half-yearly meeting of shareholders of the above Company was held on

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Disbursed on account New	
Dock	\$595.675
Disbursed on account Plan	
Buildings, &c.	\$77.195

Loans and overdrafts reduced from \$1,125,000 to \$104,733.97, the highest point reached, to \$381,467. I will be seen that during the above 61 years just completed we have returned to shareholders about two-thirds of the capital. Gentlemen, much for the past, and I leave you to form your own opinion regarding the probably financial position of the Company in two or three years time. Although at the moment we have not quite so much work on hand as we could wish, I have no doubt that at the close of the current half year our returns will be quite up to the

Mr. FRASER SMITH—Mr. Chairman of the gentlemen, I think every shareholder of the Company is entitled to know the facts of the report, which shows substantially what has been predicted by myself—will perform as well as introducing myself personally—and by others who know something of the Company, and who are, I think, past fifty or sixty years. Twenty years ago I stood up in this room and advocated the policy which I am glad to see the directors of this Company have followed. I have seen the value of the property of the Company rise from a value of property of a paring of dividends according to earnings. I am bound, however, to be consistent, to object to one item in it. I am not going to say anything about the fact that the directors have taken the sum of £150,000 to contribute to the shareholders. I say that substantially that defending the shareholders of £90,000. It was a time, some shareholders were not in the room, and I was asked a question in saying that I was not in the favour of the Company, joined the Company, when contributing shareholders is to be considered. We had three or four opposition to the directors, and I was asked to go to offer special inducements to secure work. We have no opposition now and there is no ground for offering special inducements to contributors of the Company. I am not simply a commission paid to the directors, but I am paid for their services. There is no reason that any commissions should be paid now without giving ground for it. I am not going to say that what must come to the Doek Company, such a charge should no longer appear in

articles of association which binds you to pay the amount for this purpose, and I would suggest to the directors, who I am sure are men of honour and honesty, and do not want to be tainted by this paltry commission of \$10,000, that this be taken out of the articles. I suggested the same thing to Mr. Boll-Pering or three years ago and he promised that he would see to it, but he left the colony and the thing was done in the matter. I would suggest to the directors that before the next pay meeting the clause regarding the payment of a bonus to contributing shareholders be wiped out altogether.

(\$100) is a very small sum; it is only about one per cent.

Mr. SMITH: I admit that; it is the principle I object to.

Mr. HORTON: I rise to order. I do not know Mr. Smith's name among the list of shareholders. I do not think he can speak.

Mr. SMITH: That was the only person who was asked to give the administration a report regarding the bonus to the foreign staff. I say that personally I should like to see this amount \$20,000, but I object as a shareholder to the payment of this bonus. I am confident it is adequately paid for the services rendered, and if not, there is no necessity for increasing this bonus. If any individual is worthy of special commendation and is worth a high salary, then by all means give it him. The object of the bonus is to give the foreign staff, reflecting in the third end of the wedge at the

of Mr. POENESSER.—The suggestion was of the shareholders, not that of the directors.

Mr. SMITH.—Yes, but the directors are bound by every suggestion of the shareholders. It is their duty to consider and decide. It was Mr. Balliols who suggested the bonus, and I am not aware that the Dock Company are under the thumb of Mr. Balliols, that they are bound to carry out any suggestion of his. I report itself is a very good one, and reflects credit on the management of Mr. Gillis.

The CHAIRMAN—The living of the bureau practically sanctioned at the last meeting.

Mr. SMITH—The last meeting could not mention anything contained in this report.

The CHAIRMAN—At all events no objection was raised to the suggestion. If there are further questions I beg to move the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. SMITH seconded.

THE SECRETARY—I am very sorry indeed that this amount of \$100,000 to be given to these employees has been objected to by anyone connected with the Company. The money has been given for a good purpose by the directors, and all events such was their intention. I am very sorry that Mr. Smith, who I deem my friend, has thought about this matter. I am very glad he thought it to object. I do not know whether I shall be able to accept any more or not, as I think the remarks of Mr. Smith put it out of my power, but on the part of the others—as the accounts have been examined I presume the money will be paid—I must say my warmest thanks for the very large bonus which has been proposed, and I feel that I shall only be representing the feeling